



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Neil Hepburn, et al.

Serial No.: 10/767,656

Filed: January 29, 2004

Entitled: SEALED BRANCH WELLBORE  
TRANSITION JOINT

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: House, Letoria G.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-SB-08, the Applicants hereby call the examiner's attention to the following information of which they are aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56. Copies of the listed references, other than U.S. Patent documents, are enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. Patent documents:

5,318,122                    2003/0173092

Foreign documents:

GB 2388136                    WO 02/20941                    WO 03/008756

Search Report for U.K. application GB0501821.3

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), which provides for the timely filing of an Information Disclosure Statement before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 2003-IP-010320 U1 USA

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Written notification that the listed documents have been considered in their entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



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Dated: April 20, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on APRIL 20, 2005  
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**Substitute for form 1449/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet 1 of 2 Attorney Docket Number 2003-IP-010320 U1 USA

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/767,656
Filing Date	January 29, 2004
First Named Inventor	Neil Hepburn
Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	House, Letoria G.

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		GB 2388136	11-05-2003	e2TECH Limited		
		WO 02/20941	03-14-2002	Jan Freyer		
		WO 03/008756	01-30-2003	Shell Int'l Research		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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<p>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	10/767,656
				<b>Filing Date</b>	January 29, 2004
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Neil Hepburn
				<b>Art Unit</b>	3672
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	House, Letoria G.
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2003-IP-010320 U1 USA

## NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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